

Be Careful When Winterizing Irrigation System

When winterizing your lawn irrigation system please do not assume that your irrigation maintenance company knows what they are doing! Every October and November we are confronted with numerous improperly winterized systems that can cause damage and inconvenience to homeowners and to others.

The irrigation piping should be drained in order to prevent damage due to freezing. However in purging the water from the system, air compressors often are used, which may force compressed air into your household plumbing and beyond. Be very sure that the lawn irrigation system valve is **shut** before putting a compressor to the outside irrigation pipes. Each year numerous 'unqualified' irrigation service companies force compressed air into the irrigation piping with the valve open to the inside plumbing and thereby create a problem by forcing compressed air into the house plumbing. Some others valve off the backflow prevention device and thereby leave it filled with water, which subsequently freezes and is damaged.

Be sure your irrigation service contractor knows the proper procedures for winterizing the system!

